DC #73

DIRECT CURRENTS

APRIL COVER DATE

GREEN LANTERN #51... THE FIRST ISSUE OF A NEW ERA!

The all-new GREEN LANTERN is here!

The morning after the startling events in "Emerald Twilight" finds Kyle Rayner the only holder of a Green Lantern power ring... and he's nothing like any of his predecessors! Kyle is a young freelance artist with a reckless streak and an eye toward life in the fast lane. With no idea of the ring's limits or its limitations, the new Green Lantern's first test of its awesome potential comes in battle against a murderous villain with deadly electrical powers.

And elsewhere, the alien conqueror Mongul—the cyborg Superman's accomplice in the destruction of Coast City during "Reign of the Supermen"—explodes from prison. Mongul has vowed to destroy Green Lantern... and he doesn't care which one he kills!

Plus, GREEN LANTERN #51 features the debut of Kyle Rayner's new Green Lantern costume!

GREEN LANTERN is written by Ron Marz *(Silver Surfer, Thor, Secret Defenders)*, and features the art of penciller Darryl Banks (LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES) and inker Romeo Tanghal, who launch an incredible new direction for one of the core heroes of the DC Universe.

GREEN LANTERN #51—The new Green Lantern in his first adventure!

IN THIS ISSUE:

DAMAGE
A new hero rocks the DC Universe!

LOBO: A CONTRACT ON GAWD
Paradize it isn't!

LOONEY TUNES
Bugs and friends are back!

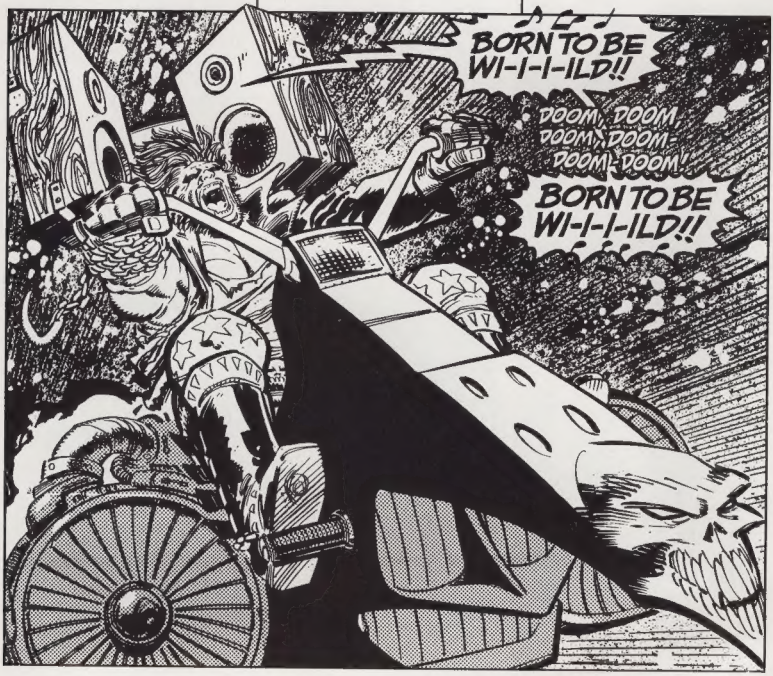
Cover of the Month
THE DARKSTARS #19

SAY YER PRAYERS! IT'S *LOBO: A CONTRACT ON GAWD*

There's trouble on Paradize, a planet whose citizenry is fed up with its idyllic, utopian existence and decides that it's time for a change. The populace wants to embrace capitalism and industrialization. But Paradize's all-knowing and omnipotent ruler, Gawd, will have none of it. So the populace does what anyone would do: they put a contract out on their supreme being... an assignment that's ideally suited to the baddest bastich in the universe, the ever-maimin' Lobo!

LOBO: A CONTRACT ON GAWD is an especially irreverent and skull-crushingly violent miniseries (for mature readers, of course), that pits the Main Man from Czarnia against an opponent of truly celestial proportions.

LOBO: A CONTRACT ON GAWD is a 4-issue miniseries in the New Format, suggested for mature readers, written by Alan Grant, with art by Kieron Dwyer and inkers Klaus Janson (issue #1) and Dick Giordano (issues #2-4). The creators' names remain unchanged so the guilty can be tracked down.



Paul Kupperberg, Writer
Marco Palmieri, Editor
Tom McCraw, Colorist
Patricia Jeres, Manager—Marketing Communications
Bob Wayne, Director—Direct Market Sales

DIRECT CURRENTS #73 April 1994. Published by DC Comics, 1325 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019. Copyright © 1994 by DC Comics. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters, and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. Except as otherwise noted, all DC Comics books, titles, characters names, slogans, logos, and related indicia are trademarks of DC Comics. Printed in Canada
VERTIGO and PIRANHA PRESS are trademarks of DC Comics. All Rights Reserved.
CHAIN GANG WAR is Copyright © 1994 John Wagner and David Johnson. All Rights Reserved.
FIGHTING AMERICAN is Copyright © 1994 Joe Simon and Jack Kirby.
MILESTONE and related logo are TM Milestone Media, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
HARDWARE, BLOOD SYNDICATE, ICON, and STATIC are TM 1994 DC Comics and Copyright © 1994 Milestone Media, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
LOONEY TUNES characters, names, and all related indicia are trademarks of Warner Bros. © 1994. All Rights Reserved.
THE MYSTERY PLAY is TM & Copyright © 1994 Grant Morrison and John J Muth. All Rights Reserved.
SCARAB is Copyright © 1994 John Smith and Scot Eaton. All Rights Reserved.
STAR TREK and STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION are copyright © 1994 Paramount Pictures. All Rights Reserved. STAR TREK and STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION are registered trademarks of Paramount Pictures. DC Comics Authorized User.

DOING MAJOR *DAMAGE*

What would you do if you were a 16-year-old who suddenly found yourself charged with power you had no idea how to control?

That's the question facing Grant Emerson as DAMAGE explodes into the DC Universe. Damage is a reluctant young hero possessing devastating power beyond his wildest imaginings—a teenager capable of totalling a car with one punch, or leveling buildings for blocks around. But how he acquired these powers is a disturbing mystery.

Now Damage is on a desperate search for the truth behind his mysterious origins. The clues suggest Damage's real parents may be among the greatest heroes in the DC Universe, and his quest to learn the truth will be a major theme in the early issues of the series, ultimately leading to a shocking revelation.

And if that's not enough, after Damage's powers first surface, Superman's old adversary, the giant cyborg Metallo, appears on the scene to test the youth's powers! Metallo has been sent by a mysterious mastermind with a sinister interest in what Grant Emerson has become.

DAMAGE is an ongoing series in the New Format, written by Tom Joyner, with art by Bill Marimon and Tom McWeeney.

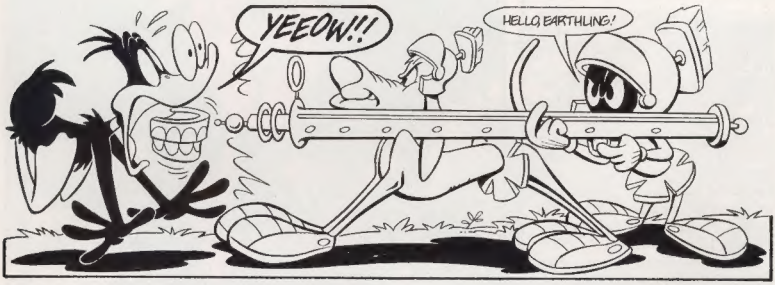
LOONEY TUNES—THE DC COMIC!

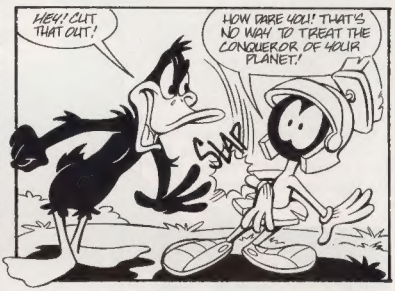
They're baaaack!

Warner Bros.' timeless animated characters return to comics this month in a terrific new series, LOONEY TUNES, featuring outrageous antics, wisecracking good humor, a dash of slapstick, and a strong dose of fun.

LOONEY TUNES is an anthology of fresh stories starring the classic cartoon characters in their uniquely zany world. Showcasing the combined efforts of a number of talented creators, LOONEY TUNES is also a cool way to get your younger brothers, sisters, and friends into comics, with activities and puzzles in every issue.

LOONEY TUNES #1 includes stories with Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Marvin Martian, Wile E. Coyote, the Road Runner, Sylvester, and Sylvester Jr. Future issues will feature these characters and many others — all the Warner Bros. favorites in all manner of misadventures!





APRIL COVER DATE

SHIPPING FEBRUARY 8

BATMAN #506
"Knightquest: The Crusade" continues, following the adventures of Batman: The Dark Knight and Ballistic (the New Blood from this year's BATMAN ANNUAL) join forces to battle a murderous trio trying to kill Abattoir. Written by Doug Moench, with art by Mike Manley and Joe Rubinstein. Cover by Kelley Jones. $1.50

BATMAN #506

CHAIN GANG WAR #10
While Batman speeds toward the Crooked Man's mansion, the Chain Gang storms the premises in an all-out attack. Meanwhile, Deathstroke, the Terminator escapes the House of Correction. Written by John Wagner, with art by Federico Cueva and Pez. Cover by Dave Johnson. *(New Format)* $1.75

DEATHSTROKE, THE TERMINATOR #35
After the "World Tour," Deathstroke is more alone than ever and takes his rage out both on himself and the gang of mercenaries that has been plaguing him. Written by Marv Wolfman, with art by Lauchland Pelle and Will Blyberg. Cover by Tom Raney and Blyberg. *(New Format)* $1.75

ECLIPSO #18
The Spectre guest-stars in the startling series finale as a host of Justice League heroes join Bruce Gordon in the final battle against the God of Vengeance. A special follow-up tale is featured in this month's THE SPECTRE #17. Written by Robert Loren Fleming, with art and cover by Audwynn Jermaine Newman and Ray Kryssing. $1.50

FLASH #89
Flash stands trial for his negligence in allowing a young woman to be injured during his battle with Razer, as the mysterious mastermind behind Wally's setup is revealed. Written by Mark Waid, with art by Chris Renkewitcz and Mike Deodato, Jr. Cover by Mike Wieringo and José Marzan, Jr. $1.50

HARDWARE #14
With or without his battlesuit, Curt Metcalf proves effective against a swarm of attackers, while Barraki Young finds that the Hardware armor isn't always tangible. Written by Dwayne McDuffie, with art by Denys Cowan and Prentice Rollins. Cover by Cowan. $1.50

LEGIONNAIRES #13
Invisible Kid gets a taste of what his teammates suffered at Kid Psycho's hands as another group of Legionnaires become fugitive in the Paris Dome. Plus, the fate of the comatose Cosmic Boy is revealed. Written by Tom and Mary Bierbaum, with art Frank Fosco and Wade Von Grawbadger. Cover by Adam Hughes. $1.50

DEATHSTROKE, THE TERMINATOR #35

APRIL COVER DATE

HARDWARE #14

☐ **STAR TREK® #59**
While a hostile alien ship bombards a Federation colony with deadly radiation, a popular uprising topples the leadership, leaving Chekov's old flame and Spock in the hands of the rebels. Written by Howard Weinstein, with art by Carlos Garzón. Cover by Jerome Moore. *(New Format)* $1.75

☐ **SUPERBOY #3**
When the high-tech pirate Scavenger commits a crime under Superboy's nose, it leads to a showdown inside a seething volcano. Written by Karl Kesel, with art by Tom Grummett and Doug Hazlewood. Cover by Grummett and Kesel. $1.50

☐ **SUPERMAN: THE MAN OF STEEL #32**
Part 4 of the 5-part "Bizarro's World," continued from ACTION COMICS #697: Having captured Bizarro and saved Lois, the Man of Steel must take his imperfect clone to the only place that can possibly save the deteriorating duplicate... LexCorp. Concluded in SUPERMAN #88. Written by Louise Simonson, with art by Jon Bogdanove and Dennis Janke. Cover by Bogdanove and Janke. $1.50

☐ **VALOR #18**
Valor is dead... the space/time continuum is unraveling... and while the Legionnaires valiantly attempt to sort out the chaos, they find help coming from an utterly unexpected source. Written by Mark Waid, with art by Colleen Doran and Mischa McDowell. $1.50

☐ **WONDER WOMAN #85**
In the aftermath of Wonder Woman's confrontation with Ares Buchanan, events are set in motion that involve Diana in swiftly escalating violence, as her friends are made pawns in a deadly game. Written by William Messner-Loebs, with art by Mike Deodato and Ande Parks. $1.50

SHIPPING FEBRUARY 15

☐ **BATMAN: SHADOW OF THE BAT #26**
"Knightquest: The Crusade" continues, following the adventures of Batman. True love never dies... it merely becomes a motive for murder, a lesson Batman quickly learns when he encounters the Clayfaces. Written by Alan Grant with art by Bret Blevins and Bob Smith. Painted cover by Brian Stelfreeze. *(New Format)* $1.75

SUPERMAN: THE MAN OF STEEL #32

APRIL COVER DATE

THE DEMON #46
An old Nazi general summons the bodies of his long-dead soldiers in a twisted scheme to win the war they lost fifty years ago. Now the Demon Etrigan must battle these returned Nazis alongside a real blast from the past... the crew of the Haunted Tank and the deranged ghost of General J.E.B. Stuart! Written by Garth Ennis, with art by Denis Rodier and Wayne Faucher. Cover by John McCrea. *(New Format)* $1.75

GREEN LANTERN #51
If the all-new Green Lantern, Kyle Rayner, doesn't learn to use his power ring fast, the murderous villain Ohm may bury him. Elsewhere, the alien conqueror Mongul — the cyborg Superman's accomplice in the destruction of Coast City — escapes his captivity, vowing vengeance on Green Lantern. This issue also features the debut of Rayner's new GL costume! Written by Ron Marz, with art and cover by Darryl Banks and Romeo Tanghal. $1.50

THE DEMON #46

HAWKMAN #8
Part 2 of the 2-part "King of the Netherworld": Mongrel, shaken by the accidental death of Mustang Suzy, continues his iron-handed lordship over Chicago's outcast metahumans. Hawkman is forced into a no-holds-barred battle with this New Blood character to prevent further deaths... and avert an all-out war. Written by Paul Kupperberg, with art by Luke McDonnell and Ricardo Villagran. Cover by Steve Lieber. *(New Format)* $1.75

ICON #12
Buck Wild, Mercenary Man — the most embarrassing '70s archetype ever — makes his explosive, senses-shattering debut. But Icon and Rocket are even more embarrassed to find that he's on their side. Written by Dwayne McDuffie, with art by M.D. Bright and Mike Gustovich. Cover by Bright. $1.50

JUSTICE LEAGUE AMERICA #87
Part 2 of the 3-part "Cult of the Machine": Captain Atom and the Ray rally the Justice League against Dreamslayer, who's backed by a mysterious cosmic power and who claims to be the entity the cult has been trying to reach. Written by Dan Vado, with art by Mark Campos and Ken Branch. Cover by Kevin West and Branch. $1.50

JUSTICE LEAGUE AMERICA #87

THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES #56
The Legion's "underground" status is blown during the gang fight on Rimbor, forcing them to escape with the Science Police hot on their heels. Meanwhile, Rokk falls deeper, and Vi reactivates the Espionage Squad. Written by Tom McCraw, Stuart Immonen, and Ron Boyd, with art and cover by Immonen and Boyd. *(New Format)* $1.75

APRIL COVER DATE

☐ **LOBO: A CONTRACT ON GAWD #1**
(of a 4-issue miniseries)
It's an especially irreverent, skull-crushingly violent Lobo adventure that pits the Main Man against a foe of celestial proportions. All isn't well on Paradize, where the citizenry wants to industrialize and embrace capitalism... but their all-knowing and omnipotent ruler, Gawd, will have none of it. So the populace does the sensible thing: it puts a contract out on their supreme being... an assignment right up Lobo's alley. Written by Alan Grant, with art by Kieron Dwyer and Klaus Janson. Painted cover by Dwyer. *(Suggested for mature readers. New Format.)* $1.75

☐ **THE NEW TITANS #110**
Flash and Sarge Steel guest-star as the Titans set out to find a new headquarters... and they wind up at the last place anyone would expect. Also, business and military leaders across the world are found incinerated, and Nightwing searches for Starfire. Written by Marv Wolfman, with art and cover by Bill Jaaska. *(New Format)* $1.75

SUPERGIRL #3

LOBO: A CONTRACT ON GAWD #1

☐ **S.T.A.R. CORPS #6**
(of a 6-issue miniseries)
The five superhumans created by Mindgame join forces for the first time as the S.T.A.R. Corps moves against the rogue computer, determined to prevent anyone else from suffering their fates. Written by Dan Vado, with art and cover by Norman Felchle and Mike Machlan. $1.50

☐ **SUPERGIRL #3**
(of a 4-issue miniseries)
When Supergirl learns the horrific depth of how Luthor used her during the past year, she begins an awesome and shocking transformation to strike back! Written by Roger Stern, with art by June Brigman and Jackson Guice. Cover by Kerry Gammill and Bob Wiacek. $1.50

APRIL COVER DATE

S.T.A.R. CORPS #6

☐ **SUPERMAN #88**
Part 5 of the 5-part "Bizarro's World," continued from SUPERMAN: THE MAN OF STEEL #31: The fate of Superman's imperfect Bizarro clone signals serious trouble for Lex Luthor II... and the other clones of Metropolis! Plus, Superman's body begins to mutate and grow. Written by Dan Jurgens, with art by Stuart Immonen and Joe Rubinstein. Cover by Jurgens and Brett Breeding. $1.50

SUPERMAN #88

SHIPPING FEBRUARY 22

☐ **ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #511**
While the clones in Metropolis continue to deteriorate, Superman's growth is now also out of control. Plus, Lois Lane writes a scathing condemnation of Lex Luthor for the Daily Planet. Written by Karl Kesel, with art by Barry Kitson and James Pascal, and a cover by Kitson and Ray McCarthy. $1.50

☐ **BATMAN: COLLECTED LEGENDS OF THE DARK KNIGHT TRADE PAPERBACK**
Some of the most popular shorter story arcs from BATMAN: LEGENDS OF THE DARK KNIGHT are collected in this single trade paperback edition, including "Blades" from issues #32-34, by James Robinson, with art by Tim Sale; "Legends of the Dark Mite" from #38, written by Alan Grant and illustrated by Kevin O'Neill; and "Hothouse" from #42-43, written by John Francis Moore, with art by P. Craig Russell. Painted cover by Brian Bolland. 160 pages. *(Trade paperback)* $12.95

ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #511

APRIL COVER DATE

☐ **BATMAN: LEGENDS OF THE DARK KNIGHT #59**

Part 1 the 3-part "Quarry," the concluding story arc of "Knightquest: The Search": Picking up from elements in BATMAN: SHADOW OF THE BAT #23, Bruce Wayne continues his relentless pursuit of the abductors of Shondra Kinsolving. Behind the abduction is Benedict Asp, a man with world-threatening plans... and sinister ties to Kinsolving's past! Written by Dennis O'Neil, with art by Ron Wagner and Ron McCain. Cover by Wagner. *(Deluxe Format)* $1.75

BATMAN: LEGENDS OF THE DARK KNIGHT #59

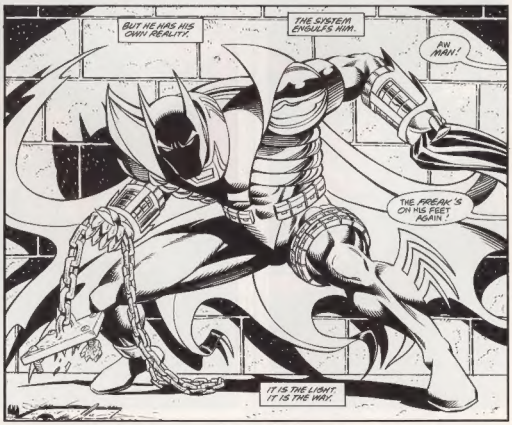
☐ **BLOOD SYNDICATE #13**

The roaches are getting out of hand, beginning to murder people and causing Boogieman's rats to prepare for the worst. Meanwhile, the rest of the Blood Syndicate goes looking for a hot club... one that once found, is made too hot by a certain villain. Written by Ivan Velez, Jr., with art by Chriscross and Shepherd Hendrix. Cover by Chriscross. $1.50

☐ **DETECTIVE COMICS #673**

"Knightquest: The Crusade" continues, following the adventures of Batman. Caught between a rock and a hard place, Batman has to face the climax of The Joker's homicidal foray into film production and try to cope with an internal struggle between the demands of the System and his own humanity. Written by Chuck Dixon, with art by Graham Nolan and Scott Hanna. Cover by Kelley Jones. $1.50

BLOOD SYNDICATE #13

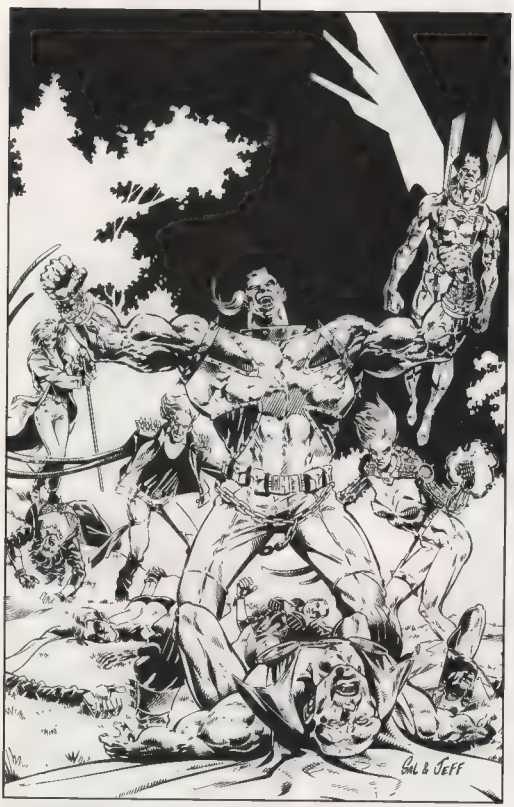


DETECTIVE COMICS #673

APRIL COVER DATE

JUSTICE LEAGUE TASK FORCE #11
Part 2 the 3-part "Purification Plague": The Task Force's mission to infiltrate the group of military survivalists is compromised when one of the heroes is recognized. But if the Task Force fails, a virus will be released that could wipe out half the population of Earth. Written by Michael Jan Friedman, with art and cover by Sal Velluto and Jeff Albrecht. $1.50

L.E.G.I.O.N. '94 #65
The twisted Brain Bandit tries to harness the secrets of Stealth's physiology... but he's unprepared to deal with the hideous creature she becomes! Written by Tom Peyer, with art by Arnie Jorgensen and James Pascoe. Cover by Barry Kitson. *(New Format)* $1.75



JUSTICE LEAGUE TASK FORCE #11

OUTSIDERS #6
The Outsiders head for Gotham City... on the same flight as the super-powered terrorist group, the Jihad! The Outsiders seem certain to take a fall... from 30,000 feet. Written by Mike W. Barr, with art and cover by Paul Pelletier and Robert Campanella. *(New Format)* $1.75

OUTSIDERS #6

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION® #59
Part 1 of the 3-part "Children of Chaos": The *Enterprise*™ encounters the Chalnoth, a notoriously suspicious race with no good reason to trust either Picard or the Federation's intentions. Written by Michael Jan Friedman, with art by Deryl Skelton. Cover by Jason Palmer and Jerome Moore. *(New Format)* $1.75

APRIL COVER DATE

THE SPECTRE #17
Enraged at the fate of Eclipso, the Spectre travels to the far side of the Moon to destroy the dark citadel of the God of Vengeance, an act that could have dire consequences for Earth. Written by John Ostrander, with art by Tom Mandrake. Cover by Tristan Shane. *(New Format)* $1.75

THE SPECTRE #17

STEEL #3
Steel wages all-out war on Amertek, the source of the high-tech weapons being supplied to the street gangs of Washington. What he didn't expect was to have to face the armored guards that protect the Colonel... his former boss! Written by Jon Bogdanove and Louise Simonson, with art by Chris Batista and Rich Faber. Cover by Bogdanove and Janke. $1.50

TEAM TITANS #19
Past and future come crashing around the Team as the experiment that brought them back in time to the present threatens to destroy them. Written by Jeffrey Jensen and Phil Jimenez, with art and cover by Terry Dodson and Will Blyberg. *(New Format)* $1.75

STEEL #3

APRIL COVER DATE

SHIPPING MARCH 1

ACTION COMICS #698
Lex Luthor sets Lois up for a fall just before he goes into seclusion. Plus, Superman's mass continues to increase. Written by Roger Stern, with art by Jackson Guice and Denis Rodier. Cover by Guice. $1.50

ANIMA #2
The Scarecrow guest-stars as Anima arrives in Rain City, finding shelter at a haven for teenaged runaways. But the shelter holds a dark secret: The teenagers are the test subjects of the Scarecrow's latest terror experiments, and his victims are being literally scared to death by horrific nightmares and terrifying visions. Meanwhile, Special Agent Kyle Woodleaf of the O.D.D. continues his search for Anima, while at the mysterious Tellus Institute, more is revealed about the true nature of the creature Animus. Written by Elizabeth Hand and Paul Witcover, with art by Malcolm Davis and Chris Ivy. Cover by Davis. *(New Format)* $1.75

ACTION COMICS #698

ANIMA #2

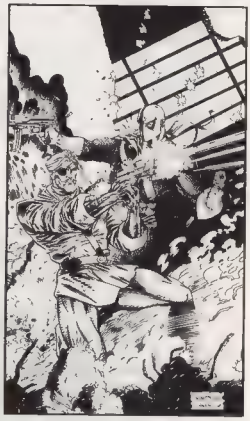
THE BATMAN ADVENTURES #19
All of Gotham City is sharing the same terrible nightmare, and that can only mean one thing... the Scarecrow has returned! Written by Kelley Puckett, with art and cover by Mike Parobeck and Rick Burchett. $1.50

APRIL COVER DATE

FIGHTING AMERICAN #3
The gluttonous Gross National Product and his emaciated sidekick Def Izzit take on the Fighting American and the Washington Establishment in a tale of greed, excess spending, and dirty economics that leaves the nation reeling... because when it comes to these guys, somebody's going to pay. Written by Dave Rawson and Pat McGreal, with art and cover by Greg LaRocque and Richard Space. $1.50

GREEN ARROW #85
In Las Vegas, Green Arrow collides with Deathstroke, the Terminator, and the two hard-edged heroes join forces against a deadly crime cartel that's bent on eliminating both of them in a bizarre case of mistaken identity. Written by Alan Grant, with art by Jim Aparo and Gerardo Fernandez. Cover by Dan Norton and Fernandez. *(New Format)* $1.75

FIGHTING AMERICAN #3



GREEN ARROW #85

GUY GARDNER: WARRIOR #19
Part 2 of the 4-part "Emerald Fallout": When his power ring overloads, Warrior has to don battle armor to take down Militia. Plus, Warrior continues to experience the dire ramifications of "Emerald Twilight," leading to Militia's final downfall and the sudden appearance of an unexpected visitor—Green Lantern Alan Scott. Written by Chuck Dixon, with art and cover by Mitch Byrd and Dan Davis. $1.50

GUY GARDNER: WARRIOR #19

APRIL COVER DATE

ROBIN #5
Robin and Cluemaster are both trapped in the back of a truck that's stuck in cement, and they're rapidly running out of air. Written by Chuck Dixon, with art by Tom Grummett and Ray Kryssing. Cover by Grummett. $1.50

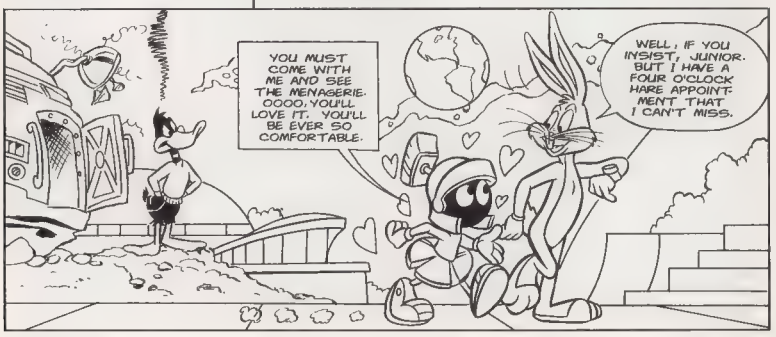
STATIC #11
The chances for Static's survival are rapidly dwindling in the face of Puff's attempt to corrode him... unless he can improve the odds with his electrostatic powers and a limited knowledge of high-school chemistry. Written by Robert L. Washington III, with art by Wilfred and Rober Quijano. Cover by O'Connell. $1.50

STATIC #11

JUSTICE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL #63
Following an attack by a mysterious band of metahuman villains, the JLI tracks its foes to a hidden fortress in Africa, where the League discovers an apocalyptic cult bent on the destruction of the modern world. Written by Gerard Jones and Will Jacobs, with art by Chuck Wojtkiewicz. Cover by Wojtkiewicz. $1.50

JUSTICE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL #63

LOONEY TUNES #1
Warner Bros.' zany characters return to monthly comics in this terrific new ongoing series designed to delight and amuse fans of the classic cartoons and newcomers alike. LOONEY TUNES #1 includes stories with Bugs Bunny, Marvin Martian, Wile E. Coyote, Road Runner, Sylvester, Sylvester Jr., and Daffy Duck. $1.50


YOU MUST COME WITH ME AND SEE THE MENAGERIE. OOOO, YOU'LL LOVE IT. YOU'LL BE EVER SO COMFORTABLE.
WELL, IF YOU INSIST, JUNIOR. BUT I HAVE A FOUR O'CLOCK HARE APPOINTMENT THAT I CAN'T MISS.

LOONEY TUNES #1

APRIL COVER DATE

SHIPPING MARCH 8

CATWOMAN #9
Catwoman faces a difficult choice when the master thief Zephyr offers to make her rich... at the cost of innocent lives. Written by Jo Duffy, with art by Jim Balent and Ande Parks. Cover by Balent. $1.50

THE DARKSTARS #19
Part 2 of the 3-part "Eve of Destruction": The Flash, allied with the rogue Darkstar, speeds toward a deadly confrontation with Ferrin Colos, whose orders are to take down the rogue, dead or alive. Written by Michael Jan Friedman, with art by Michael Collins and Ken Branch. Cover by Randy DuBurke. *(New Format)* $1.75

DAMAGE #1
When 16-year-old Grant Emerson suddenly finds that he can total a car with one punch, or level buildings for blocks around, he becomes Damage, a new hero whose origins may rock the foundations of the DC Universe. And while Damage tries to figure out what's happened to him, Superman's old adversary, the giant cyborg Metallo, appears on the scene to cut this new hero's career short... even before it's begun. Written by Tom Joyner, with art and cover by Bill Marimon and Tom McWeeney. *(New Format)* $1.75

CATWOMAN #9

DAMAGE

DAMAGE #1

CATWOMAN

APRIL COVER DATE

APRIL COVER DATE

☐ **LEGENDS OF THE WORLD'S FINEST #3**

(of a 3-book miniseries)

The untold tale of Superman and Batman's struggle against Tullus, Silver Banshee, and Blaze concludes as the Man of Steel is completely submerged in Tullus's dream-world. Only the Dark Knight can return the two heroes to reality — if the demonic Blaze and the Silver Banshee allow it. Written by Walter Simonson, with painted art and foil-embossed cover by Dan Brereton. *(Prestige Format)* $4.95

☐ **LOBO #4**

As he heads back to Bunsen's bounty agency with Qigly in tow, Lobo is ambushed by the Kamikaze Biker Babes, who happen to be on a male killing spree. And no one's more surprised than Lobo when the bite he got from Jugula turns him into a raging werewolf. Written by Alan Grant, with art and cover by Val Semeiks and John Dell. *(New Format)* $1.75

☐ **SHOWCASE '94 #4**

(of a 12-issue limited series)

The tension between the displaced Arkham Asylum inmates and the convicts of Blackgate prison reaches the boiling point, so Two-Face, the Scarecrow, the Riddler, the Mad Hatter, Poison Ivy and the others seize the opportunity to get the upper hand... in a softball game? "Madmen Across the Water" is written by Alan Grant, with art by Tim Sale and Jimmy Palmiotti. "Banzai, Good Buddy!" concludes the 2-part adventure of New Blood hero Razorsharp and the Psyba-Rats, as Razorpsharp's powers take a new and horrifying turn. Written by Chuck Dixon, with art by Howard Porter and Mark Stegbauer. In the conclusion of "Caged City," Blue Beetle must survive a deadly dogfight with airships developed from his own technology. Written by Brian Augustyn, with art by Patrick Rolo and Dick Giordano. This issue's cover featuring the Arkham softball team is supplied by Kyle Baker. $1.95

SHOWCASE '94 #4

LOBO #4

APRIL COVER DATE

GUY GARDNER: WARRIOR #19

DC #73

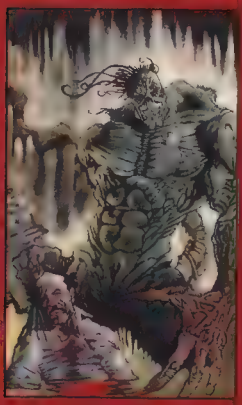
DIRECT CURRENTS

APRIL COVER DATE

VERTIGO

IN THIS ISSUE:

SANDMAN MYSTERY THEATRE #13
Falling prey to "The Vamp"!



Cover of the Month
SWAMP THING #141

DEVIL'S ADVOCATE IN *THE MYSTERY PLAY*

The actor portraying God in a Renaissance festival play has been brutally murdered. When the actor playing Satan is accused of the crime, a small English community is torn apart and its citizens are forced to reexamine their most fundamental values. A shadowy character enters the scene—a mysterious detective who isn't what he seems—with a personal stake in solving the murder in THE MYSTERY PLAY. As his past threatens to catch up with him, the detective is caught in a desperate race to unlock the secret of the town's redemption and his own.

VERTIGO presents its first original hardcover graphic novel, an 80-page multilayered psychological thriller tautly written by Grant Morrison (ARKHAM ASYLUM, DOOM PATROL, ANIMAL MAN) and breathtakingly painted by Jon J Muth (MERCY, *Moonshadow*). Evocative, cinematic, and dreamlike, THE MYSTERY PLAY charts a descent into a hallucinatory world of guilt and sacrifice, of judgment and retribution.

THE GOLDEN AGE SANDMAN FALLS PREY TO "THE VAMP"

"The Vamp," a new 4-act drama, premieres in SANDMAN MYSTERY THEATRE #13, as passion heats up the night streets of 1938 New York City. Wesley Dodds and Dian Belmont's relationship ignites, but the intoxicating atmosphere is poisoned by the acrid stench of murder.

There's a new femme fatale in town, a woman of such devilish charms that she can touch more than just the hearts of men. And now bodies are turning up everywhere—handsome, debonair young high-society types, now only corpses completely drained of blood. One of the most twisted and horrific villains in the city's history is loose with a bloodlust that can't be sated, and the elusive solution to these grisly mysteries may be locked in the dark dreams of the Golden Age Sandman.

Matt Wagner shares scripting credits with Eisner Award-nominee Steven T. Seagle (*Grendel Tales, The Amazon*) and is joined by Guy Davis, artist of "The Tarantula," the first story arc of SANDMAN MYSTERY THEATRE and the illustrator of VERTIGO VISIONS — THE PHANTOM STRANGER. State-of-the-art photo covers are supplied by Gavin Wilson and Richard Bruning.

Be certain to renew your season pass and take care to arrive at the theatre on time. The box office is certain to be a nightmare.

Jeffrey Lang, Writer
Marco Palmieri, Editor
Tom McCraw, Colorist
Patricia Jeres, Manager—Marketing Communications
Bob Wayne, Director—Direct Market Sales

DIRECT CURRENTS #73 April 1994. Published by DC Comics, 1325 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019. Copyright © 1994 by DC Comics. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters, and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. Except as otherwise noted, all DC Comics books, titles, characters names, slogans, logos, and related indicia are trademarks of DC Comics. Printed in Canada
VERTIGO and PIRANHA PRESS are trademarks of DC Comics. All Rights Reserved.
CHAIN GANG WAR is Copyright © 1994 John Wagner and David Johnson. All Rights Reserved.
FIGHTING AMERICAN is Copyright © 1994 Joe Simon and Jack Kirby.
MILESTONE and related logo are TM Milestone Media, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

HARDWARE, BLOOD SYNDICATE, ICON, and STATIC are TM 1994 DC Comics and Copyright © 1994 Milestone Media, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
LOONEY TUNES characters, names, and all related indicia are trademarks of Warner Bros. © 1994. All Rights Reserved.
THE MYSTERY PLAY is TM & Copyright © 1994 Grant Morrison and John J Muth. All Rights Reserved.
SCARAB is Copyright © 1994 John Smith and Scot Eaton. All Rights Reserved.
STAR TREK and STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION are copyright © 1994 Paramount Pictures. All Rights Reserved. STAR TREK and STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION are registered trademarks of Paramount Pictures. DC Comics Authorized User.

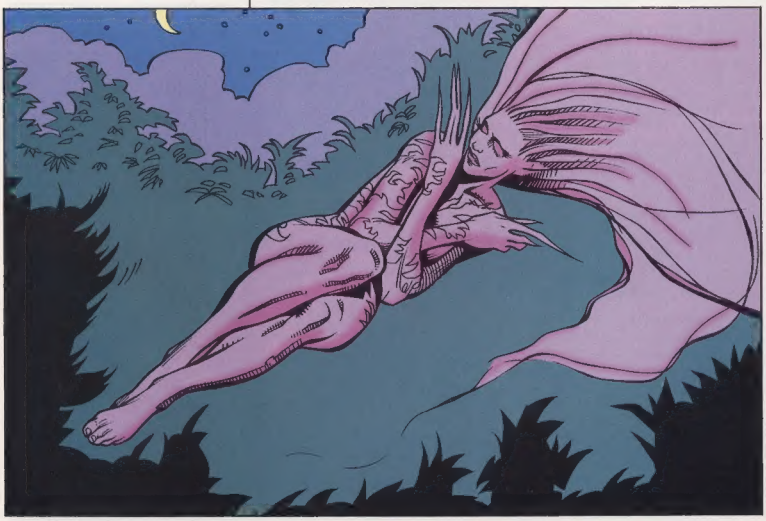
APRIL COVER DATE

SHIPPING FEBRUARY 8

☐ **BLACK ORCHID #8**
Heartbroken over Sherilyn's death, Black Orchid is led by a tribal elder to an ancient magical site in the Brazilian rain forest in a quest for her identity. Written by Dick Foreman, with art by Rebecca Guay and Stan Woch. Painted cover by Dave McKean. *(Suggested for mature readers. New Format.)* $1.95

☐ **THE MYSTERY PLAY HARDCOVER GRAPHIC NOVEL**
When the actor portraying God in a Renaissance festival is murdered, and the actor playing Satan is the prime suspect, a small English community is forced to reexamine its most fundamental values. Into this turbulent scene comes a detective who isn't what he seems, an investigator with a personal stake in solving the mystery before his shadowy past catches up with him. VERTIGO's first original hardcover graphic novel, THE MYSTERY PLAY is an evocative psychological thriller tautly written by Grant Morrison and breathtakingly painted by Jon J Muth. Painted cover by Muth. *(Suggested for mature readers. 80 pages. Hardcover graphic novel.)* $19.95

THE MYSTERY PLAY HARDCOVER GRAPHIC NOVEL



BLACK ORCHID #8

APRIL COVER DATE

☐ **SANDMAN MYSTERY THEATRE #13**
Guy Davis, artist of "The Tarantula" from issues #1-4 and co-scripter Steven T. Seagle join Matt Wagner for a new four-act drama, "The Vamp." Even as his relationship with Dian Belmont ignites, Wesley Dodds must contend with dark dreams of brutal murders—handsome young socialites found completely drained of blood. Photo cover by Gavin Wilson and Richard Bruning. *(Suggested for mature readers. New Format.)* $1.95

☐ **SHADE, THE CHANGING MAN #46**
Lenny checks out of the Hotel Shade, but her travelling companion isn't Kathy. Shade petitions Pandora's Box for advice, but the oracle's response is more than he bargained for. Written by Peter Milligan, with art by Glyn Dillon. Painted cover by Duncan Fegredo. *(Suggested for mature readers. New Format.)* $1.95

SHIPPING FEBRUARY 15

☐ **HELLBLAZER #76**
En route to London, Constantine stops in Ireland for a confrontation with the ghost of an old friend. Written by Garth Ennis, with art by Steve Dillon. Painted cover by Glenn Fabry. *(Suggested for mature readers. New Format.)* $1.95

☐ **KID ETERNITY #12**
Still rattled by the hallucinogenic effects of the genetically-engineered drug Slap, Kid Eternity must also contend with the irritable genius Nikola Tesla and the crazed superpatriot Oil Jackson, both of whom hold the key to restoring the Kid's sanity. Written by Ann Nocenti, with art by Sean Phillips. Painted cover by Phillips. *(Suggested for mature readers. New Format.)* $1.95

SHIPPING FEBRUARY 22

☐ **ANIMAL MAN #70**
The Baker family begins to unravel in the face of Maxine's fate. Ellen leaves the farm, Buddy wanders into Annie's tepee. Cliff is seized by paroxysms of terror at his sister's grave site. Written by Jamie Delano, with art by Steve Pugh. Painted cover by George Pratt. *(Suggested for mature readers. New Format.)* $1.95

THE SANDMAN #59

KID ETERNITY #12

APRIL COVER DATE

SHIPPING FEBRUARY 22

THE SANDMAN #59
In Chapter 3 of "The Kindly Ones," the final major story arc of THE SANDMAN, the identity of young Daniel's mysterious abductor is revealed, and Lyta Hall once again becomes the Fury. Written by Neil Gaiman, with pencils by Marc Hempel and inks by Matt Brooker. Painted cover by Dave McKean. *(Suggested for mature readers. New Format.)* $1.95

SWAMP THING #141
In part 2 of the 4-part "Bad Gumbo," the murderous Swamp Thing rampages through the Louisiana Bayou while Alec Holland begins a spiritual odyssey to discover who—or what—he really is. Plus, Abigail Arcane embarks on a perilous journey of her own. Co-written by Grant Morrison and Mark Millar, with art by Phillip Hester and Kim DeMulder. Painted cover by John Mueller. *(Suggested for mature readers. New Format.)* $1.95

SHIPPING MARCH 1

AMERICAN FREAK: A TALE OF THE UN-MEN #3
(of a 5-issue miniseries)
As Damien begins to question his trust in him, Crassus, the mysterious Un-Man, vanishes. Meanwhile, Damien and his new companion, Scylla, are carted off to a depraved exhibition. Written by Dave Louapre with art by Vince Locke. Painted cover by Locke. *(Suggested for mature readers. New Format.)* $1.95

DOOM PATROL #77
Part 3 of the 5-part "Teiresias Wars": Cliff Steele gets a new body — one designed to his specifications. Meanwhile, the Doom Patrol learns the origin of the Teiresias Wars, as their home is under siege by the Builders, the group seeking to recreate the Tower of Babel. Written by Rachel Pollack, with art by Ted McKeever. Painted cover by Brian Bolland. *(Suggested for mature readers. New Format.)* $1.95

AMERICAN FREAK: A TALE OF THE UN-MEN #3

SHIPPING MARCH 8

SCARAB #6
(of an 8-issue miniseries)
Scarab faces his strangest challenge yet: the Gloryboys, a collection of telekinetic youngsters who have tapped into the psychic scream created by the bombing of Hiroshima. Written by John Smith, with art by Scot Eaton and Mike Barreiro. Painted cover by Glenn Fabry and Tony Luke. *(Suggested for mature readers. New Format.)* $1.95